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Message Text

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12
ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 /143 R

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APPROVED BY EA:AWHUMMEL
EA/J:WPIEZ(DRAFT)
IO/UNP:CSCHALLER (DRAFT)
EA/P:WMAGRUDER
EA/K:DRANARD
---------- 037694
R 231526Z AUG 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185364

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS:PFOR, KS, KN, JA, US
SUBJECT: RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA: STATEMENT BY
JAPANESE DIETMAN UTSUNOMIYA

REF: SEOUL 5447

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PROVIDED DEPT SPOKESMAN AUG 21
ON UTSONOMIYA INTERVIEW. QUOTE QUESTION: CAN YOU COMMENT
ON THE REPORTS THAT NORTH KOREA HAS PROPOSED SECRET TALKS
THROUGH AN INTERMEDIARY?
ANSWER: I UNDERSTAND AFP IS CARRYING A STORY TO THAT
EFFECT SOURCED TO A MEMBER OF THE JAPANESE DIET. THERE IS
NO SUBSTANCE TO ANY REPORTS REGARDING US PLANNING TO HOLD
SECRET TALKS WITH THE NORTH KOREANS. BEYOND THAT I WOULD
REPEAT WHAT WE STATED EARLIER WHEN THE NORTH KOREAN
PEOPLES ASSEMBLY PROPOSED BILATERAL TALKS IN A LETTER TO
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THE US CONGRESS. THAT IS, THE ISSUES OF THE KOREAN PROBLEM

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MUST BE SETTLED BY THE KOREAN PARTIES THEMSELVES.

QUESTION: HAVE ANY SUCH PROPOSALS BEEN MADE?

ANSWER: I KNOW OF NONE. END QUOTE.

AUG 21 NOON BRIEFING WAS CANCELLED. SUBJECT NOT RAISED AT AUG 22 BRIEFING.

2. ON SUBJECT OF TIMING WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ANY SIGNIFICANCE IN CASE OF UTSUNOMIYA WHO PROBABLY ONLY REPEATED WHAT HE WAS TOLD IN PYONGYANG. KIM IL-SONG, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS PROBABLY CONSCIOUSLY SEEKING TO IMPROVE HIS POSITION BEFORE UNGA. PLANTING STORIES SUCH AS ONE GIVEN UTSUNOMIYA SERVES DOUBLE FUNCTION OF CREATING IMPRESSION OF NORTH KOREAN INITIATIVE AND ALSO OF RAISING DOUBTS IN SEOUL, WHICH APPEARS ALREADY CONCERNED OVER CONGRESSIONAL CRITICISM OF ROKG AND POSSIBLE ALTERATION OF TRADITIONAL US POSITION. KISSINGER

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